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Cause of Truck Fire Killing Dogs Called Electrical

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Lowell Fire Chief William Desrosiers announced that cause of the August 14, 2006 tractor-trailer fire that killed approximately 60 dogs was electrical in nature. Investigators have determined that the heat source was in the area of the ultraviolet lighting inside the trailer, which is used to kill bacteria in the trailer. The fire occurred on Route 495 south near the Lowell Connector.

The cause and origin of the fire was jointly investigated by the members of the Lowell Fire Department, the Lowell Police Department and State Police assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The fire investigative team was called to assist State Police from the Andover Barracks and the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Section and other agencies charged with investigation into the overall incident.

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